State governments are some of the criteria considered for deciding allocation.

Import of WLL handsets

1648. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government or private companies are manufacturing WLL handsets in the country;

(b) if not, whether we are importing these sets from other countries;

(c) the reasons for not manufacturing WLL handsets in the country itself

(d) the reserve stock available for handset of WLL connections and landline connections; and

(e) the process of selection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMED): (a) Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) handsets are manufactured in the country in a limited number from semi-knock down (SKD) stage by companies like M/s ITI Ltd., a public sector company and M/s Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd. (HFCL), M/s ICOMM Tele Ltd., M/s XL Telecom Ltd., M/s Surana Telecom Ltd., etc. in the private sector.

(b) Yes, Sir. WLL (CDMA) handsets are freely importable as per the Foreign Trade Policy.

(c) The setting up of unit for manufacturing of WLL handset in India is dependent on various factors including demand and economic viability. As per the extant policies, no industrial licence is required for setting up a telecom equipment manufacturing unit.

(d) and (e) The information is not Centrally maintained.

Speedy disposal of parcels

1649. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state